Committee to develop Indian culture in KVs And NVs

†2470. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level committee has been constituted with a view to strengthen the quality of educational standards further and to develop the understanding of Indian culture and to promote cultural activities in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas run by Government; and

(b) if so, the criteria fixed for submitting recommendation by the committee and the terms of reference of the committee and the stipulated time for submitting the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Government has not set up any high level Committee to strengthen the quality of educational standards in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) & Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs). However, a Committee of experts was constituted in June 2006, to advise on policies for promotion and understanding of Indian culture and to promote cultural activities in KVs and JNVs. The Committee has been asked to give its recommendations within three months from the date of order, *i.e.*, 27.06.2006.

University for PIO and NRIs

2471. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a university for the benefit of children of People of Indian Origin (PIO) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs);

(b) if so, the quantum of reservation of seats proposed to be provided to PIOs and NRIs in the University; and

(c) the courses proposed to be offered by the university, and the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is considering a proposal for setting up of a PIO University.

Illegal B.Ed institutions in West Bengal

2472. SHRI MUKUL ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Hon'ble High Court at Kolkata has ordered that the newly set up private B.Ed. institutions, in West Bengal, were being run illegally without having proper affiliation from the NCTE and as a result thereof the future of a few thousand students has become uncertain;

(b) who is responsible for playing with the future of so many students; and

(c) What remedial steps are being taken by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government's attention has been drawn to the fact of a number of unrecognized teacher education institutions functioning in West Bengal. Remedial action can only be through legal means as the NCTE is statutory organization.

UGC's Part Time Research Associateship for Women

2473. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the associateship and contingency amount under the UGC's Scheme of Part-Time Research Associateship for Women for the year 1998-99 (Ninth Plan period), which ended in March, 2004, were revised w.e.f. April, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of such revision of associateship and contingency amount; and

(c) whether grant-in-aid for the payment or arrears in view of revision of rates, has been released by Government?